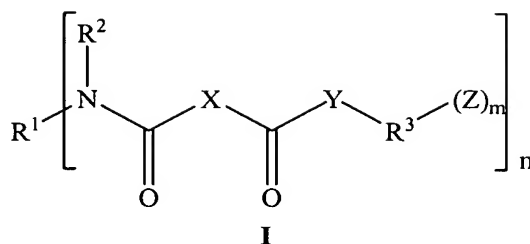


What is Claimed:

1. A compound of formula I:



wherein:

R^1 is a residue of polybutadiene or a polyalkylene glycol after removal of the functional groups;

R^2 is H, C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl or $-(\text{C}=\text{O})-$; wherein when R^2 is $-(\text{C}=\text{O})-$, R^2 and X, together with the nitrogen atom and carbonyl through which they are connected form a five-membered cyclic imide ring;

X is C_{2-6} alkyl or the residue of an aromatic carboxylic anhydride or dianhydride after removal of the cyclic anhydride group(s);

R^3 is $-[(\text{aryl}-\text{R}^5)_p\text{-aryl}]$ -,

Y is $-\text{O}-$, $-\text{S}-$ or $-\text{NR}^4$ -;

Z is $-\text{OH}$ or $-\text{NHR}^4$;

R^4 is H, C_{1-4} alkyl or phenyl;

R^5 is a covalent bond, $-\text{O}-$, $-\text{S}-$, $-\text{SO}_2-$, $-\text{CO}-$, $-\text{COO}-$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{N}(\text{R}^7)-$, $-\text{C}(\text{R}^5)(\text{R}^6)-$ or $-\text{Si}(\text{R}^8)(\text{R}^9)-$ wherein R^5 , R^6 and R^7 each independently represent hydrogen, $-\text{CF}_3$ or C_{1-6} alkyl and R^8 and R^9 represent C_{1-6} alkyl, or R^5 and R^6 together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a 5- to 7-membered carbocyclic ring;

m is 1 or 2;

n is 2 or 3; and

p is 0 or 1.

2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R^1 is a residue of polyalkylene glycol after removal of the functional groups.